



Novel Approaches in Homicide Research for the Next Quarter Century

HOMICIDE RESEARCH WORKING GROUP 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

AGENDA



Novel Approaches in Homicide Research for the Next Quarter Century

TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH

8:30 - 10:00 AM

Registration - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

10:00 - 11:00 AM

Welcome and Introductions - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

11:00 - 12:15 AM

SESSION 1

Chair: Wendy Ringgenberg

Mateus R. Santos, *University of South Florida*
Yunmei Lu, *University of SUNY-Buffalo*
Alexander Testa, *University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston*

How Much Lifetime is Lost Due to Homicides?: A Cross-National Comparison

Brielle Savage, *Rutgers University-Newark*

Four Times the Risk: The Deadly Divide in Firearms Homicides of Women and Gun Laws in the United States Between 2012 and 2023

Melissa Bemiller, *Augusta University*
Wendy Ringgenberg, *State of Iowa, Department of Management, Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement*

Child Fatality Reviews

12:15 - 1:00 PM

LUNCH - *SkyView Room*

1:00 - 2:00 PM

SESSION 2

Chair: Kayla Toohy

Juan Mei, *University of Memphis*
James C. McCutcheon, *University of Memphis*
Amaia Iratzoqui, *University of Memphis*

Defining Mass Murder: Examining the Impact of Homicide Thresholds on Incident Classification Using NIBRS Data

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 10TH

Ernesto Lopez, *Council on Criminal Justice*

The Council on Criminal Justice's Future of Crime Trends Research

Wendy Ringgenberg, *State of Iowa, Department of Management, Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement*

Iowa Violence Prevention Dashboard

2:00 PM

Closing Day One

5:00 - 6:30 PM

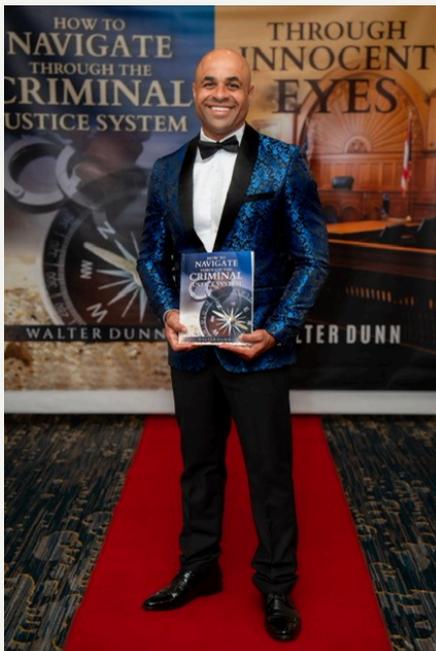
Keynote Speaker - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

5:00 - 6:30 PM

Welcome Reception - *Poolside Patio*

Keynote Speaker

Mr. Walter Dunn



Walter Dunn, an individual with a background in incarceration, has established himself as an author, radio host, and advocate for criminal justice reform. His experience includes a period of incarceration initiated at the age of 26, where he served a 12.5-year sentence for crimes he did not commit.

Mr. Dunn's narrative is characterized by a distinctive turn of events after he was arrested for the first time in his life on charges of home invasion, felony battery, aggravated assault, kidnapping, and later the charge of attempted murder was added by the state prosecutor.

He proactively engaged in self-education, acquiring legal expertise and obtaining certification as a law clerk during his time in prison, ultimately leading to the overturning of his own sentence.

Mr. Dunn actively shares his experience of wrongful conviction on a national scale. He engages in extensive public speaking engagements, addressing audiences at universities, conferences, and summits throughout the country, contributing to the broader discourse on the need for justice reform.

HOMICIDE RESEARCH WORKING GROUP



2025 ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH

9:00 - 9:15 AM

Welcome Remarks & Announcements - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

9:15 - 10:45 AM

PRACTITIONER PANEL 1: *The State: Prosecuting Felony Murder Law in the U.S.*

Honorable Suzy Lopez - *State Attorney, 13th Judicial Circuit, Tampa*

Ms. Michelle Doherty - *Prosecutor, Major Crimes Division, States Attorney's Office, Tampa*

Major Eric DeFelice - *Tampa Police Department, Criminal Investigations*

Sgt. Mike Blair - *Detective, Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office*

TBD - *Family member of homicide victim*

10:45 - 11:00 AM

BREAK

11:00 - 12:30 PM

PRACTITIONER PANEL 2: *The Defense: Defending Clients Charged with Felony Murder*

Ms. Julianne Holt - *Former Public Defender, 13th Judicial Circuit (Ret. January 2025)*

Ms. Dana Herce-Fulgueira - *Defense Attorney, Former Public Defender, Tampa*

Dr. Guyora Binder - *Distinguished Professor, University of Buffalo, School of Law*

Ms. Joanne Scheer - *Founder, Felony Murder Elimination Project, California*

Mr. Floyd Lafountain - *convicted of felony murder as a juvenile*

12:30 - 1:15 PM

LUNCH - *SkyView Room*

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11TH

1:15 - 2:30 PM

SESSION 5

Chair: Kim Davies

*Kathleen Heide, University of
South Florida
Simone Deegan, Flinders
University*

Portraits of Juvenile Homicide Offenders

*Sultan Altikriti, Rutgers
University*

Firearm Carrying from Adolescence to Adulthood: A Multi-State Analysis of Onset, Persistence, and Desistance Among High-Risk Youth

*Lee Topolewski, Schreiner
University*

Examining the Severity and Distribution of Homicide Injuries Relative to Victim-Offender Relationships in the U.S.

2:30 - 2:45 PM

BREAK

2:45 - 3:30 PM

BUSINESS MEETING 1

3:30 PM

Closing Day Two

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH

9:00 - 9:15 AM

Welcome Remarks & Announcements - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

9:15 - 10:30 AM

SESSION 6

Chair: Raquel V. Oliveira

Jeff Gruenewald, *University of Arkansas*
Kayla Allison, *University of Arkansas*

A Comparison of Bias Homicides Across Victim Groups: New Findings from the Bias Homicide Database (BHDB)

James C. McCutcheon, *University of Memphis*
Amaia Iratzoqui, *University of Memphis*

Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) Tools and Targeted Patrol

Michele Covington, *University of South Carolina Upstate*
Major Steve Lamb, *Spartanburg Police Department*

Partners in Crime (Solving): Civilian Support for Violent Crime Investigations

10:30 - 11:45 AM

BREAK

10:45 - 12:00 PM

SESSION 7

Chair: Amber Scherer

Erica L. Smith, *Bureau of Justice Statistics*

Homicide Research Using Crime Data from the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

James Hubbell, *Bureau of Justice Statistics*

Unveiling Heterogeneity In Child Murder by Victim Age

Kimberly Martin, *Bureau of Justice Statistics*

Attention Gun Violence Researchers! Meet the New BJS NIBRS Firearm Victimization Extract

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

THURSDAY, JUNE 12TH

12:00 - 1:00 PM

LUNCH - SkyView Room

1:00 - 2:15 PM

SESSION 8

Wendy Ringgenberg, *State of Iowa, Department of Management, Division of Data, Planning, and Improvement*

The Impact of Federal Executive Orders and Policy Changes on Homicide Research and Prevention Efforts

Amaia Iratzoqui, *University of Memphis*
James C. McCutcheon, *University of Memphis*

Applied Research and Grant Partnerships: Balancing Academic and Community Needs

2:15 - 2:30 PM

BREAK

2:30 - 3:30 PM

BUSINESS MEETING 2

3:30 PM

Closing Day Three

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH

9:00 - 9:15 AM

Welcome Remarks & Announcements - *Sunset Cove, 9th Floor*

9:15 - 9:45 AM

HRWG 2025 Awards Session

9:45 - 11:00 AM

SESSION 9

Chair: Michele Covington

John K. Cochran, *University of South Florida*
Beth Bjerregaard, *University of North Carolina, Charlotte*
M. Dwayne Smith, *University of South Florida*
Sondra J. Fogel, *University of South Florida*

A Decision-Tree Analysis of Statutory Aggravating Factors in Capital Murder (North Carolina, 1977-Present)

Jonathan C. Reid, *Texas A&M University*
Raquel V. Oliveira, *Augusta University*
Jodi Lane, *University of Florida*
Eric Connolly, *Sam Houston State University*
Elizabeth N. Hartsell, *Sam Houston State University*

Antisocial Personality Disorder and Recidivism Among Homicide Offenders: Exploring the Moderating Role of Incarceration Variables

James C. McCutcheon, *University of Memphis*
Kayla Toohy, *University of Tampa*
Bert Burraston, *University of Memphis*

Exit Strategy: Do Interstates and Their Exits Shape Crime Patterns?

11:00 - 11:15 PM

BREAK

2025 ANNUAL MEETING

FRIDAY, JUNE 13TH

11:15 - 12:00 PM

SESSION 10

Chair: Melissa Bemiller

Hasan T. Arslan, *Western Connecticut State University*
Megan Wiese, *Western Connecticut State University*

Star-Crossed and Silenced: Celebrity Murders and Assassinations

Kayla Toohy, *University of Tampa*
Lin Huff-Corzine, *University of Central Florida*

Turning to Tarnowsky: Early Development of Interdisciplinary Criminological Thought

12:00 PM

Concluding Remarks

HRWG 2024-2025 COMMITTEES

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Chair, Local Arrangements - Kayla Toohy
Chair, Nominations & Elections - Wendy Ringgenberg
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Lillie Macias
Jonathon Reid
Karen Holt
Millan AbiNader
Mateus Rennos Santos
Alondra Garza
John Cochran
Lee Topolewski

*denotes Chair

2025 PROGRAM

Amber Scherer*
Kayla Toohy

2025 LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS

Kayla Toohy*
Dwayne Smith
Amber Scherer
James Alan Fox

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Amber Scherer - *Chair, Practitioner Committee**
Kayla Toohy
Ciara Boyd

SITE SELECTION

Amber Scherer
Kayla Toohy

NOMINATIONS & ELECTIONS

Wendy Ringgenberg
Kathleen Heide
Lin Huff-Corzine
Shila Hawk

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Ciara Boyd*
Caitlin Long
Lee Topolewski

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Michele Covington
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Bethany Mims-Bellies

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Gráinne Perkins
John Cochran

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Kathleen Heide
John Cochran
Karen Parker

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Gráinne Perkins
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John Cochran
Karen Parker
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Melissa Bemiller - *Co-coordinator**
Wendy Ringgenberg
Jay Corzine
Lin Huff-Corzine
Kayla Toohy



**SAVE THE
DATE** MAY 27-29, 2025

**HRWG 2026 ANNUAL
MEETING**

Phoenix, AZ

